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IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 23-25 and add new claims 26-28.

1. (Previously Presented) A seal for a guide of a cover panel of a vehicle body panel, comprising:

a resilient sealing profile having a reverse side for attachment to a vehicle component and a scaling side; and

a sliding strip mounted on the resilient sealing profile wherein the resilient scaling profile has two protruding portions with the sliding strip being disposed between the two protruding portions and being recessed towards the reverse side with respect to the two protruding portions in an unstressed state.

2. (Previously Presented) The seal as recited in Claim 1, wherein the sliding strip is attached on the scaling side of the resilient scaling profile.

3. (Previously Presented) The seal as recited in Claim 1, wherein the sliding strip has a hardness that is greater than a hardness of the resilient sealing profile.

4. (Previously Presented) The seal as recited in Claim 1, wherein the sliding strip is accommodated in a form-locking manner in the resilient sealing profile and protrudes from at least one sealing surface on the resilient sealing profile.

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5. (Previously Presented) The seal as recited in Claim 1, wherein the sliding strip is recessed from at least one sealing surface on the sealing side when the seal is in the unstressed state.
6. (Previously Presented) The seal as recited in Claim 1, wherein the resilient sealing profile is a closed hollow profile.
7. (Previously Presented) The seal as recited in Claim 1, wherein the sealing side is situated opposite the reverse side.
8. (Previously Presented) The seal as recited in Claim 1, wherein the resilient sealing profile has a B-shaped cross-section with the two protruding portions forming two bulbous sealing surfaces, and wherein the sliding strip is disposed between the two bulbous sealing surfaces.
9. (Currently Amended) A sealing system for a guide of a cover panel of an openable vehicle body panel, comprising:
- a resilient sealing profile having a reverse side for attachment to a vehicle and an opposing sealing side, ~~wherein the resilient sealing profile has~~ with at least one sealing surface forming a protruding portion for contacting a vehicle part;
- a sliding strip mounted on the opposing sealing side of the resilient sealing profile distanced from the protruding portion; and

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a moveable connecting member separate from the vehicle part that contacts the sliding strip and is spaced away from the at least one sealing surface wherein during movement the moveable connecting member displaces the protruding portion.

10. (Original) The sealing system as recited in Claim 9, wherein the sliding strip has a hardness that is greater than a hardness of the resilient sealing profile.

11. (Previously Presented) The sealing system as recited in Claim 9, wherein the sliding strip is accommodated in a form-locking manner in the resilient sealing profile and protrudes from the at least one sealing surface.

12. (Currently Amended) The sealing system as recited in Claim 9, wherein the sliding strip is recessed from the at least one sealing surface on the opposing sealing side when the resilient sealing profile is in an unstressed state.

13. (Previously Presented) The sealing system as recited in Claim 9, wherein the resilient sealing profile is a closed hollow profile.

14. (Currently Amended) ~~The sealing system as recited in Claim 9,~~ A sealing system for a guide of a cover panel of an openable vehicle body panel, comprising:

a resilient sealing profile having a reverse side for attachment to a vehicle and a scaling side, wherein the resilient sealing profile has at least one sealing surface forming a protruding

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portion and wherein the resilient sealing profile has a B-shaped cross-section having two bulbous sealing surfaces;

a sliding strip mounted on the sealing side of the resilient sealing profile distanced from the protruding portion and wherein the sliding strip is disposed between the two bulbous sealing surfaces; and

a connecting member that contacts the sliding strip and is spaced away from the at least one sealing surface.

15. (Currently Amended) The sealing system as recited in Claim 9, wherein the moveable connecting member has an extension that contacts only the sliding strip.

16. (Original) The sealing system as recited in Claim 15, wherein the extension has a wedge-shaped configuration.

17. (Currently Amended) A sealing system for a guide of a cover panel of an openable vehicle body panel, comprising:

a first resilient sealing profile having a reverse side for attachment to a vehicle at a first vehicle part and an opposing sealing side, ~~wherein the first resilient sealing profile has~~ with at least one sealing surface;

a first sliding strip mounted on the opposing sealing side of the first resilient sealing profile distanced from the at least one sealing surface;

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~~a connecting member that contacts the sliding strip and is spaced away from the at least one sealing surface; and~~

a second resilient sealing profile having a reverse side for attachment to a second vehicle part and an opposing sealing side with at least one sealing surface;

a second sliding strip mounted on the opposing sealing side of the second resilient sealing profile distanced from the at least one sealing surface; and

a moveable connecting member separate from the first and second vehicle parts, the at least one sealing surface of the first resilient sealing profile being pressed against the at least one sealing surface of the second resilient sealing profile that is pressed against the first resilient sealing profile in areas to provide the sealing function, wherein the moveable connecting member protrudes between the first resilient sealing profile and the second resilient sealing profile, contacts the first and second sliding strips, and during movement displaces the at least one sealing surfaces of the first and second resilient sealing profiles without contacting either sealing surface of the first and second resilient sealing profiles.

18. (Currently Amended) A vehicle body panel system, comprising:

- a panel opening;
- at least one cover panel that is slidable and tiltable to selectively cover the panel opening;
- at least one longitudinal guide that guides the at least one cover panel;
- at least one moveable connecting member disposed between the at least one longitudinal guide and the at least one cover panel; and
- a seal that at least partially covers ~~said the~~ at least one longitudinal guide, the seal having

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a resilient sealing profile having a reverse side for attachment to a vehicle and an opposing sealing side, ~~wherein the resilient sealing profile has~~ with at least one sealing surface for contacting a vehicle part, and

a sliding strip mounted on the opposing sealing side of the resilient sealing profile distanced from the at least one sealing surface,

~~wherein the at least one~~ moveable connecting member being separate from the vehicle part, contactings the sliding strip, ~~and is being~~ spaced away from the at least one sealing surface, and to compressing the resilient sealing profile and displacing the at least one sealing surface when the at least one cover panel is displaced.

19. (Previously Presented) The vehicle body panel system as recited in Claim 18, wherein the at least one cover panel is movable vertically with respect to a vehicle panel and can be displaced over a non-movable, stationary roof segment.

20. (Previously Presented) The vehicle body panel system as recited in Claim 19, wherein the seal covers at least a segment of the at least one longitudinal guide that runs beside the non-movable, stationary roof segment, wherein the seal seals off an area corresponding to the non-movable, stationary roof segment when the at least one cover panel is not displaced.

21. (Currently Amended) The vehicle body panel system as recited in Claim 19, wherein the at least one moveable connecting member protrudes from the at least one longitudinal guide along the seal up to the at least one cover panel when the at least one cover panel is raised up and

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displaced over the non-movable, stationary roof segment, thereby contacting the sliding strip and being spaced away from the at least one sealing surface.

22. (Currently Amended) The vehicle body panel system as recited in Claim 19, further comprising a second resilient sealing profile that is pressed against the resilient sealing profile to provide a sealing function, wherein the at least one moveable connecting member protrudes between the resilient sealing profile and the second resilient sealing profile.

23-25. (Cancelled)

26. (New) The sealing system as recited in Claim 9 wherein the movable connecting member connects the cover panel to the guide.

27. (New) A sealing system for a guide of a cover panel of an openable vehicle body panel comprising:

a resilient sealing profile having a reverse side for attachment to a first vehicle part and an opposing sealing side with at least one sealing surface forming a protruding portion for contacting a second vehicle part wherein the protruding portion lies between the first and the second vehicle parts;

a sliding strip mounted on the opposing sealing side of the resilient sealing profile distanced from the protruding portion; and

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a moveable connecting member separate from the first and the second vehicle parts and arranged on the same side of the protruding portion as the second vehicle part wherein the moveable connecting member contacts the sliding strip and is spaced away from the at least one sealing surface.

28. (New) The sealing system as recited in Claim 27 wherein the at least one sealing surface comprises first and second bulbous sealing surfaces with the sliding strip being arranged between the first and second bulbous sealing surfaces.